

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RIO DE 02860 281658Z

54

ACTION ARA-10

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R 281618Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3958

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

UNCLAS RIO DE JANEIRO 2860

FOR ARA/ECA

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, TBIO

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATIONAL CANCER DRUG

1. I HAVE BEEN ASKED BY RIO BASED EASTERN ORTHODOX ARCHBISHOP GEORGES EL-HAJJ TO HELP OBTAIN INVESTIGATIONAL CANCER DRUG CALLED ABSOLUTE ETHANOL STERILE (GENERIC NAME 1, 3 - BIS - (2 CHLOROETHYL) -1- NITROSOUREA) WHICH IS MANUFACTURED BY BEN VENUE LABORATORIES, INC., OF BEDFORD, OHIO. THE DRUG IS TO BE USED ON A BRAZILIAN BREAST CANCER PATIENT NAMED MADALENA JANTUS ZACHARIAS. THE DOCTOR PRESCRIBING THE DRUG, DR. CARLOS ALBERTO MORAES DE SA IS A LOCAL CANCER SPECIALIST WHO CLAIMS THAT HE HAS USED THE INVESTIGATIONAL DRUG IN CONJUNCTION WITH SEVERAL OTHERS ON THE PATIENT SINCE JUNE WITH REMARKABLE RESULTS. HE WOULD NOW LIKE TO OBTAIN ENOUGH OF THE DRUG TO CONTINUE TREATMENT FOR ONE YEAR.

2. NATURE OF THE DISEASE. THE PATIENT WAS DIAGNOSED AS SUFFERING FROM A LARGE MALIGNANT BREAST TUMOR AND UNDERWENT RADICAL SURGERY IN NOVEMBER 1975. IN JUNE OF THIS YEAR HOWEVER SHE BEGAN COMPLAINING OF SEVERE HEADACHES. X-RAYS SHOWED POSSIBLE LESIONS ON THE CEREBRUM AND POSSIBLE BILATERAL LESIONS OF THE LUNGS. A COMBINATION OF FIVE DRUGS WAS PRESCRIBED INCLUDING THE INVESTIGATIONAL DRUG, ADIRBLASTINA, BCG, FLUORO-URACIL, AND ONCOVIN. TREATMENT WITH A LINEAR ACCELERATOR WAS ALSO APPARENTLY APPLIED. THE DOCTOR CLAIMS THAT SUBSEQUENT X-RAYS SHOW AN 80 PERCENT
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 RIO DE 02860 281658Z

IMPROVEMENT IN THE PATIENT'S CONDITION.

3. THE DRUG LABELS WHICH THE DOCTOR HAS PROVIDED US SHOW THAT THE DRUG IS LIMITED TO INVESTIGATIONAL USE AND IS DISTRIBUTED FREE FOR STUDIES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE DIVISION OF CANCER TREATMENT, NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE, N.I.H. IN BETHESDA. WITH UNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF THE PATIENT AND THE DOCTOR THAT THE US GOVERNMENT COULD ACCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT ARISE FROM THE USE OF AN EXPERIMENTAL DRUG, WE ASK THAT THE N.I.H. CONSIDER THE REQUEST ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS.
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NNN

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